



State of New Hampshire
WATER WELL BOARD



Roger B. Skillings, C.W.D. – P.I., *Water Well Contractor*
David R. Hunt, *Water Well Contractor*
Stephen R. Smith, *Pump Installer*
Richard P. Schofield, P.G., *Staff*

Steven Garside, *Technical Driller*
Rene Pelletier, P.G., *Dept. of Environmental Services*
Frederick H. Chormann, Jr., P.G., *State Geologist*
Steve Guercia, Certified Operator, *Public Member*

NH WATER WELL BOARD MINUTES

February 14, 2013

A meeting of the New Hampshire Water Well Board ("Board") was held on February 14, 2013, in the Department of Environmental Services Building in rooms 112 and 113, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301.

Present were: Roger Skillings, Chairman
Rene Pelletier, Secretary
Board Members: Stephen Smith, David Hunt, Frederick Chormann and Steven Garside
NH DES Staff: Richard Schofield and Michelle Robbins

Chairman Skillings brought the meeting to order at 9:39 AM.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Hunt, the Board voted to accept the Minutes of the December 13, 2012 meeting.

License Applicants

Brian Dubisz

The Board considered an application from Brian Dubisz for a pump installer license. Mr. Hunt motioned to accept Mr. Dubisz's application and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

Aaron Johnston

The Board considered an application from Aaron Johnston for a pump installer license. Mr. Smith motioned to accept Mr. Johnston's application and Mr. Chormann seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

John Plummer

The Board considered an application from John Plummer for a water well contractor license. Upon motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Pelletier, the Board accepted Mr. Plummer's application. The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

David Connor

The Board considered and reviewed an application and appeal letter from David Connor for a pump installer license. *Mr. Schofield informed Mr. Connor, prior to the meeting, his application would most likely be denied due to his lack of trade experience, and encouraged him to attend*

the upcoming meeting. In response to Mr. Schofield's advice, Mr. Connor submitted an appeal letter in support of his application but did not attend the Board meeting. The Board discussed the application requirements under RSA 482-B and as Mr. Connor lacked the required three years' experience in the pump installer trade the Board voted unanimously to deny the application.

Continuing Education

The Board discussed the yearly upcoming training slated for May 16, 2013. Mr. Schofield mentioned to the Board he had contacted Mark Hilbert about providing training on the National Electrical Code this year, however Mr. Hilbert suggested doing the course next year on the 2014 NEC Code rather than on the 2011 code, which is in effect this year. The Board also discussed other training options and was in support of holding training sessions at eight locations throughout the state next year to provide Mr. Schofield an outlet to meet attendees.

Administrative Rules

Decommissioning of Gravel Wells

The Board considered a new proposed rule Mr. Hunt drafted to specifically address drilled bedrock well decommissioning. After lengthy discussion, Mr. Schofield agreed to rewrite the rule based on the Board's agreed changes and bring the revised rule to the next meeting. Mr. Schofield also presented to the Board a summary of abandoned/decommissioned wells for 2003 – 2010. The summary revealed a large majority of wells are not being decommissioned and the Board discussed methods of increasing these statistics.

Well Siting

Since the last meeting, Mr. Schofield met with Rob Tardif to discuss the Board's proposed changes to We 602.05. Mr. Schofield presented to the Board changes Mr. Tardif had proposed. The Board discussed these changes at length.

Grouting Rules

The Board discussed proposed changes to We 602.08 at length and eventually decided to maintain the original language agreed upon at the previous meeting.

Electronic Reporting

Electronic reporting is ready to be beta tested and Mr. Skillings and Mr. Garside volunteered to test the process and offer feedback.

Old Business

Absentee Qualified Individuals

At the last meeting, the Board expressed a concern about whether or not a problem existed within the industry with absentee qualified individuals, and requested staff to provide a history of the matter for the next meeting.

Mr. Schofield researched the history and rule surrounding qualified individuals and determined the current rule seems appropriate and that having absentee qualified individuals is an issue which rarely occurs.

The Board also discussed being in favor of individual licenses for equipment operators and installers and how the Board has authority to change the rules. The discussion continued around the possibility of grandfathering operators and installers who possessed a predetermined number of years' experience and allowing such individuals to be automatically granted a license. The discussion was tabled until next meeting.

New Business

Septic Tanks

Mr. Schofield informed the Membership that DES was re-evaluating the definition of what a "sealed" septic tank means in its rules, Env-Wq 1008.04(c), which allows the separation distance between an on-site well and septic tank to be reduced to 50 feet. The Board's rules also allow this reduction if the tank is sealed and grouted and the sewer line is SDR 26 or its equivalent. It has been generally understood, throughout the water well industry, that all new septic tanks were sealed by virtue of the con-seal used to seal the top and bottom pieces of the tank. The DES definition currently being implemented requires the tank to be completely sealed with an asphalt water proof sealant, commonly used on building foundations. This option is available from septic tank suppliers but must be pre-ordered and delivered that way. With this new definition water well contractors cannot assume that a septic tank is sealed just because it's new.

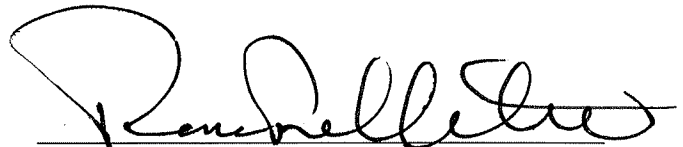
IT Changes

Mr. Schofield informed the Board that with an upgrade to the Departments' server the program has lost a very useful software tool, Clear Access, which allowed staff to query and use the Oracle databases, including the well database and the license database. Currently, only the Bureau IT staff have the ability to conduct queries and create reports in COGNOS. We are hoping that functionality can be restored with a new Excel application called MS Query.

Water Well Site Selection Guide

The Board considered a letter received from Ken White encouraging the program to develop a guide to assist engineers and others with the proper and practical site selection for water wells and well drilling equipment. The Board agreed that such a guide would be beneficial and staff should develop a guide as time allowed.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Chormann, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.



Rene Pelletier

Water Well Board Secretary